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EDITORIALS.

Our valued contributor, Sylvester Robbins, who is visiting in Southern Ohio, made Prof. William Hoover a pleasant call a few days ago.

Professors W. W. Beman and D. E. Smith are preparing a translation of Klein's *Vorträge über ausgewählte Fragen der Elementargeometrie*. It will be issued during the winter by Ginn & Co.

We are grieved to record the death of our valued contributor and subscriber, Prof. H. A. Newton, of Yale University, whose death occurred August 12th. In a future number of the MONTHLY will appear a biographical sketch of his life, by his colleague, Prof. A. W. Phillips.

The friends of Drury College will be pained to learn of the death of a member of its Faculty, Prof. William J. Whitney, of the Department of History, whose death, caused by typhoid fever, occurred on September 26th, at the home of his father, near Findley's Lake, New York. His broad scholarship, his accurate judgment, and the fine qualities of his character made him a great favorite among the Faculty and students of the College. Professor Whitney was a most intimate and helpful friend of Editor Finkel, and in his death we sustain a great loss.

BOOKS.

Elements of Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, A Text-book for Colleges and Schools. By Edwin S. Crawley, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the University of Pennsylvania. Second edition, revised and enlarged. 8vo. Cloth, 178 pages. Price, \$1.00. Published by the Author, Philadelphia, Penn.

This book contains all that is needed on the subject of Trigonometry in our best colleges. The author has omitted nothing that is necessary in studying the branches of Mathematics following Trigonometry. Such important subjects as De Moivre's Theorem, Hyperbolic Functions, Theorems relating to the escribed circles and Brocard's points are concisely treated: The book is very beautifully printed, and substantially bound in cloth. We do not hesitate to recommend this book to teachers and students desiring a good text on the subject treated.

B. F. F.

Higher Mathematics. A Text-book for Classical and Engineering Colleges. Edited by Mansfield Merriman, Professor of Civil Engineering in Lehigh University, and Robert S. Woodward, Professor of Mechanics in Columbia University. Large 8vo., 576 pages. Price, \$5.00. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

This volume is designed especially for the use of Junior and Senior Classes in Colleges and Technical Schools, but it is equally well adapted to the use of advanced students

and readers of Mathematics generally. The editors have called to their assistance the best mathematicians in the country, and thus given the book weight of authority never before given an American Mathematical Text-book. The book contains a concise treatment of the following subjects, not commonly found in text-books but upon which lectures are now given in our best classical and technical institutions:

Chapter I. The Solution of Equations, by Mansfield Merriman, Professor of Civil Engineering in Lehigh University; Chapter II. Determinants, by Laenas Gifford Weld, Professor of Mathematics in State University of Iowa; Chapter III. Projective Geometry, by George Bruce Halsted, Professor of Mathematics in the University of Texas; Chapter IV. Hyperbolic Functions, by James McMahon, Associate Professor of Mathematics in Cornell University; Chapter V. Harmonic Functions, by Professor William E. Byerly, Professor of Mathematics in Harvard University; Chapter VI. Functions of a Complex Variable, by Thomas S. Fiske, Adjunct Professor of Mathematics in Columbia University; Chapter VII. Differential Equations, by W. Woolsey Johnson, Professor of Mathematics in the U. S. Naval Academy; Chapter VIII. Grassmann's Space Analysis, by Edward W. Hyde, Professor of Mathematics in the University of Cincinnati; Chapter IX. Vector Analysis and Quaternions, by Alexander Macfarlane, Lecturer in Civil Engineering in Lehigh University; Chapter X. Probabilities and Theory of Errors, by Robert S. Woodward, Professor of Mechanics in Columbia University; Chapter XI. History of Modern Mathematics, by David Eugene Smith, Professor of Mathematics in Michigan State Normal School.

It is to be hoped that all classical colleges and other institutions of learning that have no provision for mathematical study in the Junior and Senior years will so arrange the course of study that the Higher Mathematics as here presented may be pursued during the last two years of college work, so that the student, during these years, may not be deprived of the rigid discipline of mind and the culture derived from its study. B. F. F.

Elementary Algebra. By H. S. Hall, M. A., and S. R. Knight, B. A. Revised and Enlarged for the use of American Schools by F. L. Sevenoak, A. M., Assistant Principal of the Academic Department, Stevens Institute of Technology. 8vo. Cloth and Leather Back. 416 pages. Price, \$1.10. New York: Macmillan & Co.

Only words of commendation can be said of this book. The complete and accurate treatment of each subject, the abundant illustrations, the scientific arrangement of the subjects, go to make up all that could be desired in a good text-book. This book together with the author's Higher Algebra, makes a very exhaustive course in Algebra. B. F. F.

Euclidian Geometry. By J. A. Gillet, Professor in New York Normal College. 8vo. Cloth and Leather Back. 436 pages., New York: Henry Holt & Co.

This book, as its name implies, reverts to the purely geometric methods of Euclid. The author maintains sharply throughout the work, the distinction between the processes of pure geometry on the one hand and those of arithmetic and algebra on the other. The author says, "Euclidian Geometry bears to modern geometry very much the same relation that arithmetic bears to algebra. Its theorems are less general and it admits of positive magnitude only. For this reason its simple and rigorously logical methods can never be replaced by those of synthetic geometry, either as a factor in general education or as a foundation for advanced study." We can not agree with the Author in his last statement. It has been our experience in teaching geometry that the boy or girl, who studies geometry for the mental discipline it gives him and not merely for grades, feels better satisfied when he has demonstrated a proposition in its entirety, than he does when he has demonstrated one which he feels must be enlarged, as he advances in the study of Mathematics, to satisfy all cases. However, there is much in the book to commend it favorably to teachers.

B. F. F.